

Sherri Zack

SENIOR COUNSEL

HOUSTON, TX

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OVERVIEW

Sherri brings the courtroom skills of a career prosecutor to clients' commercial litigation matters.

A member of the firm's Commercial Litigation team, Sherri primarily handles public law matters, particularly those related to real property, such as condemnation, zoning and land use, and eminent domain cases. She most often represents cities, municipalities, water management districts, and other public utilities in federal court: after more than 30 years as a prosecutor, Sherri is extensively knowledgeable about the federal bar and highly comfortable in a courtroom.

Sherri devoted the first 30 years of her career to criminal law, serving first with the Office of the State Attorney in Florida before moving to Texas, where she worked with the Harris County District Attorney's Office and later in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas. She primarily prosecuted human trafficking, online child exploitation, and international parental kidnapping, as well as other crimes relating to sexual exploitation and child abuse, and she loved the opportunity to protect and help victims. Today, Sherri draws on her criminal law experience to assist in pro bono matters through the firm's Human Trafficking Legal Clinic.

Her time as a prosecutor gave Sherri not only excellent courtroom skills, but also a knack for high stakes settlement negotiations: with the majority of criminal cases resolved through plea deals, Sherri has extensive experience balancing the needs of conflicting parties. She's equally skilled at guiding wide-ranging investigations and developing long-term litigation strategies.

Industry

Real Estate, Development, & Construction

Services

Commercial Litigation

Land Use

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

Public Law

A fierce advocate and a passionate defender of clients' cases, Sherri is especially well known for her ability to persuade judges and juries: she has a gift for making difficult subjects easily digestible, and she has a winning record in the courtroom.

Experience

AS A MEMBER OF THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS:

- Led and coordinated all eLitigation initiatives and discovery programs across the district.
- Represented the United States in a wide range of criminal prosecutions; served as lead counsel in over 350 matters.
- Led, coordinated, and directed long term multi-agency/multi-defendant criminal investigations, to include extensive grand jury work, motion practice, trials, and sentencings.
- Prepared and presented training to prosecutors and law enforcement relating to investigations, evidence preservation, drafting search warrants, best practices, and inter-agency coordination.
- Advised U.S. Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service as subject matter expert to improve the Department's support for U.S. criminal prosecutions.
- Served as Human Trafficking Coordinator for the Southern District of Texas and executive leadership for the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance, the largest human trafficking task force in the United States.

Recognition

- U.S. Attorney's Award for Superior Performance by a Litigation Team, 2024
- Houston Police Department Chief of Police, Unit Citation Award, 2024
- U.S. Attorney's Award for Outstanding Contribution, 2023, 2021, 2019, 2018
- Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division Exceptional Service Award, 2022
- U.S. Attorney's Employee Achievement Award, 2017
- Stars of the Texas Bars, Publication Award, Best News Article, 2013

Education

- J.D., Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law
- B.A., University of Florida

Admissions

- Texas
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas

Community Leadership

Sherri has volunteered annually with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo since 2010, usually serving on the Special Attractions Committee. She loves participating in such a distinctly Houston event, which supports scholarships.